

wednesday, july 31, 2013

thecollegian

INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY VOL. 118 NO. 157

Pretty Prairie

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Solution time: 21 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 7-31

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Logan's Run | By Aaron Logan



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This place is just like Santa's workshop, except it smells like mushrooms and it looks like everyone wants to hurt me.

Someone should ask the nutritionist at the Derb about Phase — the butter substitute. Only 24,000 calories in a gallon.

What does teen spirit actually smell like? Probably a mixture of too much Axe and old moldy towels.

Instead of money or power, give me truth.

You stay classy, Manhattan.

Note: To submit your Fourum contribution, call or text 785-260-0207 or email thefourum@kstatecollegian.com. Your email address or phone number is logged but not published.

7-31 CRYPTOQUIP

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PAGZROM JYTQC RW OFEECRWC

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ECFGMCZRWD QI WCAGCF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU REALIZE THAT IN SPANISH AMERICA PRACTICALLY EVERY NATIVE ADULT MALE IS A SENOR CITIZEN?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals M

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K-State recognized for LGBT-friendly campus

Laura Thacker
editor-in-chief

When Lukus Ebert first came to K-State in 2008, there was not much of an LGBT presence on K-State's campus. "It was like a gay ghost town," said Ebert, senior in sociology. "There just wasn't anything. It was crazy."

At that time, Ebert was a part of Delta Lambda Phi, a progressive fraternity, but there were very few members, and the only other LGBT organization on campus had disbanded.

Today, the story is different. K-State now has five LGBT organizations, including an alumni group, a group for Vet Med students and a full-time LGBT Resource Center. K-State also recently earned a 4.5 star rating from Campus Pride, a non-profit organization that rates campuses using an index developed by national LGBT researchers.

K-State first took part in the Campus Pride Index survey in 2009 and received a 1.5 star rating. According to Brandon Haddock, LGBT Resource Center Coordinator and graduate student in geography, the changes on campus are the result of a collaborative effort from many different parts of campus.

"As an undergrad, I went to a university that did not have an inclusive policy, and I recognize how it can feel, you know, to have no ground to stand on," Haddock said. "I came here and I've seen this progression, and it has started with the students, a recognized need, then we have faculty and staff that empowered those students to say, 'You know what? We really kind of need this.'"

K-State scored the highest in the areas of Support and Institutional Commitment, Campus Safety and Recruitment and Retention, receiving 5 stars in each of these categories, and the lowest in Policy Inclusion and Academic Life, receiving 3.5 stars in these categories.

One of the reasons for K-State's high rating is the fact that the university has the only full-time staffed LGBT Resource Center at a university in the state of Kansas. The Resource Center, which opened in 2010, is a space for students to come with questions or concerns, and also a safe social area where students can spend time and do homework. In addition, the Resource Center works with on-campus LGBT organizations and sponsors events and programming.

Christopher Chavez, incoming president of LGBT and Allies and sophomore in animal sciences and industry, learned about the LGBT community on campus near the end of his first semester and became involved in various groups.

"This center and our organizations definitely have impacted my experience at K-State," Chavez said in an email interview. "It has let me feel like I can be



Jakki Thompson | Collegian

Mike Herman, professor of biology and chair of the Flint Hill Human Rights Project, attends a DOMA Repeal Rally in Triangle Park on Wednesday, June 26.

myself along with other people around me. They have helped me feel less isolated."

Ebert said that he and a group of students began planning an LGBT group in 2009, and LGBT and Allies was up and running by 2010.

"At our first meeting we had almost 40-some people," Ebert said. "Most being students ... We still have 25 to 30 members, which is a lot. Granted they're not all active. But they're there."

According to Ebert, between the Resource Center, DLP, Gamma Rho Lambda, an all-inclusive progressive sorority which was chartered in December 2009, and other organizations, the number of events on campus about education and awareness of the LGBT community has skyrocketed compared to when he first came to K-State. Socially, the atmosphere has changed as well.

"People don't call as many mean names, throw things, that just doesn't happen as much," Ebert said.

Haddock echoed these sentiments, but added that because of the constant influx of a diverse group of new students, continual work is needed to keep the safe atmosphere intact and to keep making improvements and educating students.

"I've had students come to me and say 'I've never met a gay person.' And I'm sitting here going, 'Oh yeah, you have,'" Haddock said. "What does a gay person look like? Pretty normal if you ask me. I get up in the morning, I feed the dogs, I put my pants on, I come to work. You know, my life isn't a bunch of rainbows and unicorns. I wish it was."

Ebert, Haddock and Chavez all cited faculty and administrative support as an integral part of the LGBT-inclusive

atmosphere on campus, from the advisers of organizations always ready to lend an ear to K-State President Kirk Schulz attending LGBT and Allies' welcome back barbecue.

"I can say, 'We're here and we're awesome and we do stuff and we're a fun, welcoming, safe place,'" Ebert said. "OK, that's fine. But if [Pat] Bosco says it, it's like K-State law."

While Campus Pride is currently making changes to the index in order to take things such as a university's location and size into account, Haddock does not expect it to change K-State's overall rating. Still, he believes that it is important to look forward and work on improving even more.

"For the atmosphere we are in or the environment we are in, I think we're doing a great job," Haddock said. "Can we do better? Always."

K-State, local area briefs

Karen Sarita Ingram
news editor

Tickets on sale for annual Brew at the Zoo fundraiser

Tickets are now available for the Sunset Zoo's annual Brew at the Zoo event, which will be held on Aug. 23. The event features beer from Tallgrass Brewing Company, live music, special animal encounters and more. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$40 at the door, if tickets are still available on the day of the event. The fundraiser is used to fund the zoo's conservation efforts and raise awareness of zoo animals and projects.

Southwest Kansas man killed in plane crash

A small plane crashed in a field in Russell County killing the pilot on Sunday. The Kansas Highway Patrol reported Rufus Woods III, a 65-year old resident of Cimarron, Kan., died when his plane went down just north of Wilson Lake. The cause of the crash is under investigation.

\$1 million Powerball ticket sold in Kansas for second week in a row

Kansas Lottery officials report that a ticket sold in Kansas has won \$1 million from the Powerball Lottery for the second week in a row. The winning ticket, which matched all five numbers but not the Powerball number, was sold somewhere in Northeast Kansas for the July 27 drawing. Last week, a \$1 million winning Powerball ticket was claimed by Nelson Worley, resident of Osawatimie, Kan., from the drawing held on July 20. The jackpot has not been won and rises to an estimated \$235 million for tonight's drawing.

New regulations make Kansas more knife-friendly

A new law that took place on July 1 has made Kansas one of the most knife-friendly states in the nation. Switchblades, daggers, dirks and other types of blades that were previously prohibited by state law may now be carried in Kansas. The law, HB 2033, was signed by Gov. Sam Brownback after it was approved by legislators in April. The law includes exemptions that allow schools, jails and juvenile detention facilities to ban the weapons. County courthouses also ban knives.

Athletics department should consider **selling beer** at football, basketball games



Mike Stanton

Last spring, K-State quietly amended the university alcohol cereal malt beverage policy to allow the athletics department the option to permit beer sales at sporting events. When I received a tip on the policy change from a K-State professor, I wrote a short article outlining the bare facts of the matter.

Due to the presence of the words “alcohol” and “athletic events” in the headline, online readers seemed to jump to the conclusion that Bill Snyder Family Stadium and Bramlage Coliseum would have beer available for purchase. K-State students and fans took to Twitter to voice their approval, and disapproval, for a few hours, before the athletics department issued a statement clarifying that they only intended to use the policy for a test-run at selling beer at baseball games.

As things stand now, it doesn't appear that fans at sweltering early-fall football games will be able to enjoy a frosty cold one for quite some time. The athletics department made it very clear that the policy would be utilized for baseball games, period.

I don't understand the definite, close-minded stance. After all, according to an April 30 article by the Topeka Capital-Journal's Ken Corbitt, the department was happy with how the sales went at baseball games. Although the exact amount of revenue generated by the sales hasn't been released, it was surely significant, as there was a consistent line for the duration of the beer's availability.

Imagine that the potential customer pool was more than 50,000 strong, like a typical football game, as opposed to the average baseball attendance of just over 1,000. New Big 12 Conference rival West

Virginia added more than \$700,000 in revenue during the 2011 football season according to a Bloomberg article by Eben Novy-Williams, when they debuted beer sales at Milan Puskar Stadium. That's a very significant chunk of change the athletics department is leaving on the table.

Besides just making money, the athletics department could also help to combat pregame binge drinking by selling beer within the stadium gates. Many fans tend to overindulge in the parking lot to compensate for the hours they'll spend without access to beer. Regardless of whether this is a smart approach or not, it happens. If beer were made available during the game, people would be more inclined to spread their drinking out over a longer period of time.

In fact, during West Virginia's first season with beer sales, police incidents involving alcohol dropped by 30 percent at the stadium.

Additionally, beer sales could help the athletics department reach their goal of providing “the best fan experience in the Big 12.” The atmosphere at Bill Snyder Family Stadium is already incredible, but adding beer sales to the equation will make it seem all the more so to countless fans.

Embracing the sale of beer at football and basketball games is an opportunity for K-State athletics to increase revenue, enhance stadium security, and improve the fan experience, yet the department refuses to even consider the matter. I'd encourage John Currie and the rest of the athletics officials to look long and hard at the potential upsides before ruling out the option entirely.

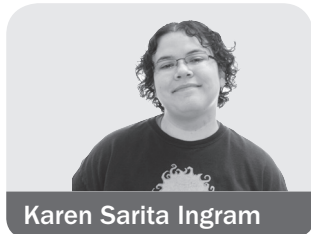
More and more schools around the country are reaping the benefits of selling beer to the large crowds at football and basketball games. There's no reason K-State shouldn't consider doing the same.

Mike Stanton is a sophomore in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.



Illustration by Tennery Carttar

Food stamp stigma shames, embarrasses those in need of assistance



Karen Sarita Ingram

Go to YouTube and search for "Woman Ridiculed For Using Food Stamps At Kroger." The woman in that video was not only treated horribly at her local grocery store because she was using food stamps to pay for her food, but she was treated horribly by the *manager* of said store. This is a woman with no kidneys who is on dialysis. Her husband has a job, but it's not enough to feed

their family.

We live in a country where asking for help is considered shameful. People who use food stamps are seen as lazy and a burden on society. Yet, we Americans pride ourselves on being "the good guys," running to the assistance of those in need and creating charities for the downtrodden and unfortunate. Basically, what mass media tells us, and what we tell ourselves and our children, is that it's honorable to help others, but it is dishonorable to ask for help.

I am a victim of this mindset, too. I am ashamed to ask for help, but I am always willing to help someone I see in need, if I can. I am a hypocrite, and I realize it, but it's hard to flip the switch that

turns off shame and embarrassment. I am ashamed of being poor, even as I realize that it's not my fault.

Minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour in the U.S. McDonald's website has a budgeting tool to help their employees manage their finances. This budget tool advises them to get a second job and does not include groceries or heating in the list of monthly expenses. (Go to YouTube and type in "McBudgeting" for a video that highlights the glaring holes in this so-called helpful budgeting tool.)

If you do the math, even McDonald's acknowledges that it's impossible to get by with one job unless you're making at least \$12 an hour. Preferably \$15.

I have worked two jobs for much of my college career. As a matter of fact, I just got a second job again to help make ends meet. And yet, the only time I have not had to ask my parents for grocery money is when I was living with my ex and he was working two jobs as well. Four jobs between two people, and you can get by. That's ridiculous.

I should probably apply for food stamps. I'm quite certain I qualify. And yet I can't bring myself to do it, because I am ashamed.

For those of you attending K-State with me who are fortunate enough to come from well-to-do families, I can assure you that being poor has nothing to do with being lazy. To be poor is to live in

a constant state of fear and desperation. I feel as though I am choking all the time. I feel the weight of it on me when I read my electric bill, when I open my empty fridge, when I eye the gas gauge in my car and wonder if I can make it to payday. I can't imagine how much worse it must be for those with children to feed. I don't want to.

I do not want to be a burden on my parents or on society. I want to make enough money to feed myself. I have never wanted to sit at home and not work, and I have never met anybody on food stamps who does.

Speaking for the poor, I can assure you that we are not lazy and we are not apathetic. We are anything but.

Are there people who abuse the system? Yes. Are there lazy people in the world? Yes. But I do not automatically assume that someone is hardworking just because they have money.

I see lazy people every day who don't have a care in the world because they have Daddy's credit card. They don't realize how fragile their existence is. If something were to happen, like Daddy loses his job or becomes incapacitated somehow, their privileged life would vanish like smoke.

It's happened to others. It can happen to anyone.

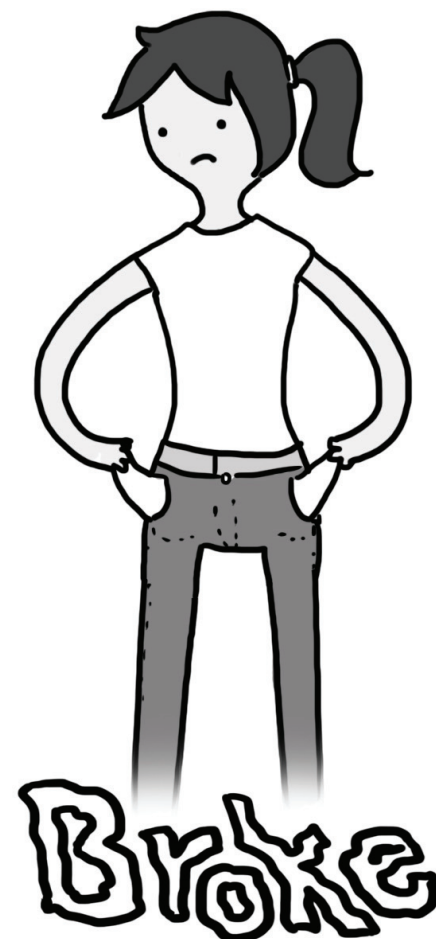
Karen Sarita Ingram is a senior in English. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.



work



work



Broke

Riley County Fair boasts family-friendly attractions



Russell Edem | Collegian

Many animals, including **this goat**, were brought in for the 2013 Riley County Fair. Saturday's events featured a goat show as well as a swine show, a rabbit show and a rodeo.



Jakki Thompson | Collegian

A Riley County Fair-goer looks at the recipes for breads and cakes that won Grand Champion on Sunday. Grand Champion award winners from each Kansas county will compete at the State Fair.



Russell Edem | Collegian

The organization Pink Heals made its presence felt at the fair with one of its signature pink firetrucks, signed by breast cancer patients and survivors.

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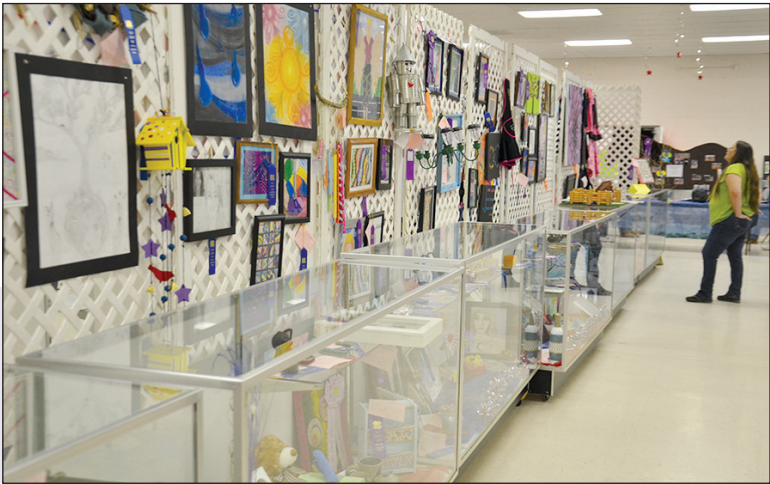


Jakki Thompson | Collegian

As the Riley County Fair wrapped up on Sunday, many animals were awaiting their time for judging. Members of different 4-H clubs from all over the county competed for a chance to show their animals at the Kansas State Fair, to be held Sept. 6-15.

Jakki Thompson | Collegian

Fair attendees admire some of the handmade artwork submitted by 4-H-ers from all over Riley County into the fair's competition. The Riley County Fair ran from July 25-29.





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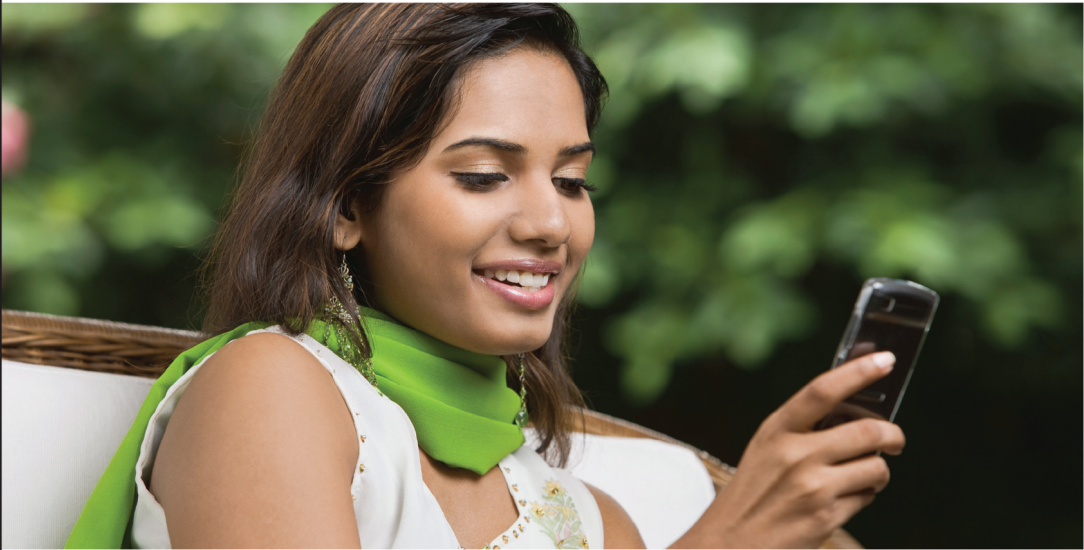
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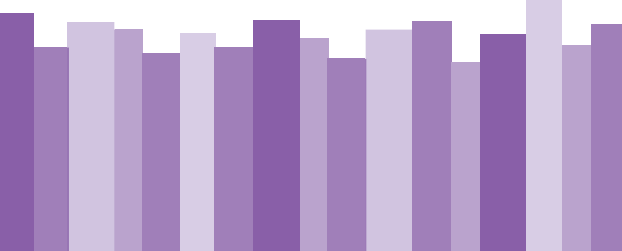
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Review

'Joyland' a complete letdown for horror fans



Jeana Lawrence
staff writer

With a teaser like "Who dares enter the funhouse of fear?" you expect a thrilling ride, like a roller coaster at the carnival. It's more like a little kiddie ride than a thrilling roller coaster. I was expecting more from "Joyland," published in June, and the devious and suspenseful mind of Stephen King than the cheap thrills that are actually featured.

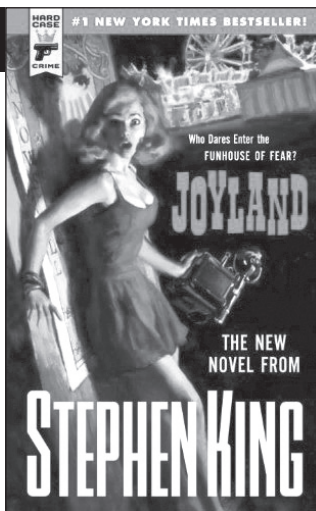
Set in the 1970s, "Joyland" tells the story of Devin Jones, who has broken up with his girlfriend and taken a job at a small-time carnival. He's a jack-of-all-trades worker specializing in "wearing the fur," or dressing up as the mascot, Howie the Hound, and entertaining small children.

Devin is a pretty likable narrator: funny and relatable but oddly fascinated by the death of a girl in the "Horror House." Throughout the story, he learns some life lessons, makes

lifelong friends and grows up a little bit. The actual mystery of the murder, however, hovers in the background and made me wonder why this book is labeled as "hard case crime."

Hard Case Crime is a new publishing house that is trying to bring back classic hard crime books, featuring a stout detective and sexy women. At least "Joyland" has plenty of those between Erin Cook, a fellow employee who helps Devin research the dead girl's case, and Annie Ross, Devin's main love interest.

Hard Case Crime even prints their books only in paperback, like the original crime novels. The similarity to old-fashioned novels is, for me, one of the more interesting aspects of this book. As such, I was expecting more mystery and intrigue than a meandering walk down memory lane. I was expecting maybe a ghostly visit from the dead girl herself, but you don't even get



that.

Of course, there are some creepy parts; for example, the resident psychic at Joyland who may or may not be psychic and a boy who also seems to have some kind of psychic ability. They both point and prod Jones in the right direction, but they never give you the heebie-jeebies. In fact, I wasn't on the edge of my seat until the last 20 pages or so when Devin finally confronts the killer.

I will say this — I really couldn't guess who the killer was until almost the very end. So

JOYLAND | pg. 12

Review

Tech N9ne's new album really 'something else'



Jakki Thompson
edge editor

After having to work his way into the music industry from the bottom, Tech N9ne continues to push his way into the mainstream music scene.

Born Aaron Dontez Yates, he was nicknamed Tech N9ne before 1999, which later became his stage name. Tech N9ne originally started on JCOR records before founding and creating his current record label, Strange Music, in 1999. His music has continued to grow and create a unique sound. As Strange Music has continued to grow, the label has signed many artists, including Big Krizz Kaliko and Kutt Kalhoun, who are featured on many Tech albums.

Tech N9ne released his 13th studio album, "Something Else" on July 30. This album brings in many sounds and collaborators from previous albums. Krizz Kaliko



is featured on "Straight Out the Gate," "My Haiku- Burn The World," "Somebody Else" and "Feels Like Heaven." Kutt Calhoun is featured on "That's My Kid." It's not unusual for Tech N9ne fans to hear Kaliko and Kalhoun on Tech albums or in concert. The three are the most famous Strange Music artists.

"Something Else" brings something else to Tech's style. In previous albums, the entire album told a story. Whether that story was about women, drugs, alcohol, his family or a combination of all of them,

it always told a story. He showed darker sides of his life in his first three studio albums: "The Calm Before The Storm," "The Worst" and "Anghellic." Then, "Absolute Power" and "Everready (The Religion)" moved more into his party side — the drugs, the alcohol, the women and the inevitable destruction of his family. With his recent releases, Tech N9ne has moved more toward the limelight of his fame and success.

Recent albums, including "Something Else," are unlike earlier Tech N9ne music. They're more about the "technician" movement, geared towards Tech N9ne followers who avidly buy his albums, comment online and see him live in concert. His music is also more about outside collaboration than ever before. "Something Else" features artists like B.o.B, Cee Lo Green, Serj Tankian and Wiz Khalifa.

N9NE | pg. 12

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Sams, Waters neck and neck in race for quarterback position

Mike Stanton
staff writer

As K-State's Big 12 title defense season draws closer and closer, one big question mark still remains: who will step in to replace star quarterback and Heisman Trophy finalist Collin Klein? Klein was instrumental to the team's 11-1 regular season record during his senior campaign last year, and he left very big shoes to fill, both as a quarterback and as a team leader.

There are two candidates to start the season at quarterback: redshirt sophomore Daniel Sams and junior Jake Waters, a transfer from Iowa Western. Coach Bill Snyder gave no hints as to who was ahead in the race at last week's Big 12 Media Days in Dallas, saying simply that he, like every other coach in the conference, would do his best to put "the best young guys on the field as number one."

The job could be Sams' to lose, since the Slidell, Louisi-

ana, product has two seasons in the system under his belt and backed Klein up last season. The 6-foot-2-inch 207-pounder electrified crowds late in several games last season, rushing three times for 61 yards, including a 46-yard touchdown, in his debut against Missouri State. After Klein suffered a concussion against Oklahoma State, Sams came in to complete five of six passes for 45 yards and carried seven times for 20 yards while hanging on for a win.

Waters, who was named the 2012 NJCAA Player of the Year after leading Iowa Western Community College to a 12-0 record and a national championship, holds the NJCAA record for completion percentage at 73.3 percent over two seasons.

He threw 39 touchdown passes and just three interceptions for the Reivers, amassing more than 3,500 yards through the air. Though the 6-foot-1, 210-pounder from Council Bluffs, Iowa, has never played

in as competitive a league as the Big 12, he's a proven winner, with two high school state championships and a junior college national title under his belt.

Although the two quarterbacks are often perceived as opposites in playing style, with Waters as the gunslinging pocket passer and Sams as the elusive scrambler, junior wide receiver Tyler Lockett said they aren't as different as they appear.

"I believe they're more similar than they are different," he said. "You look at D-Sams, a lot of people see him as a runner, because that's what they saw him do last year. Same with Jake; a lot of people automatically say he can throw the ball, which he can, but nobody's seen him run the ball yet. People haven't seen those other sides."

Lockett added that regardless of who ends up taking the snaps, the offense would play to his strengths, just as they did last season for Klein. Senior

safety Ty Zimmerman echoed his teammate's confidence in both potential quarterbacks.

"Sams did a great job stepping up against Oklahoma State last year when Collin went down, so we already know what he brings to the table. Jake's a smart kid. He came in in January, and he's already learned the offense, making checks, things like that," Zimmerman said. "I have full confidence knowing that whoever's under center this season is going to do a great job for us."

Both quarterbacks impressed fans at the spring game in April. Sams started the game with the first team before switching with Waters in the second half. Sams racked up 391 yards, four touchdowns and a pick, completing 18 of his 28 attempts. Waters was 14-for-18 through the air, with 249 yards, three touchdowns and no interceptions. Both also rushed for a touchdown.

Bill Snyder remains characteristically tight-lipped about



Emily DeShazer | Collegian

The first team defense struggles to tackle freshman quarterback Daniel Sams (right) during the spring game on April 27. Snyder remains tight-lipped about whether Sams or junior college transfer Jake Waters will take the starting quarterback position this fall.

who has the edge in the quarterback competition, but he echoed his players' sentiments of confidence in both athletes.

"I've got a young guy down in College Station that came on the scene, and no one had

a clue he was going to get himself on the field," Snyder said at Big 12 Media Days, referring to Texas A&M phenom Johnny Manziel. "He ended up winning himself a Heisman. You just never really know."

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'Iconic drive' includes Konza Prairie

Samantha Owen
staff writer

Earlier this month, travel writer Annette Thompson named Route 177 one of the 10 most iconic drives in the country in a Smarter Travel article. The Kansas highway runs for about 85 miles from Manhattan to Casoday, connecting several townships together and providing Manhattan with a major connec-

United States."

The Konza Prairie itself comprises a more than 8,000-acre area of the larger Flint Hills, which covers 22 counties in Kansas and Oklahoma and contains the majority of the tallgrass prairie left on the continent. The prairie once covered more than 170 million acres of North America, but today, only 4 percent of the prairie remains, mostly in Kansas.

"We conserve Konza Prairie

Center seek to bring awareness to the endangered tallgrass ecosystem as well as encourage tourists to visit the Konza Prairie firsthand, in keeping with the impetus to promote the Konza as a tourist attraction.

"There are miles of hiking trails open to visitors," Manes said in an email interview. "Konza also hosts public events like wildflower walks, greater prairie chicken viewings and the biennial Konza

"We have people come here from all around the world. This is something that no other university has, particularly in the Big 12. There is not a tallgrass research station that is so close to a university that's been funded for such a long time."

The Konza Prairie Biological Station seeks to meet a three-part mission: conduct long-term ecological research, conserve the prairie and educate the public. Currently, more than 180 projects are being conducted at the station, many of which began more than 30 years ago. Such projects include studying the impact of fire on vegetation, drought and prairie water systems. The station also maintains a herd of 300 wild American Bison.

The Konza Prairie Biological Station sees significant student involvement. Undergraduate and graduate students assist professors in hands-on work like collecting and sorting samples, and students also conduct their own research in the outdoor laboratory.

Allison Veach, graduate student in microbial ecology, conducts research projects at Kings Creek, a major stream in the Konza.

"I have met several other graduate students and professors who come to Konza to pursue grassland research from all over the country," Veach said. "It's a very collaborative environment where I've experienced strong intellectual support to pursue interesting research avenues."

Bram Verheijen, graduate student in biology, utilizes the facility to study bird populations in relation to prairie management. He said the Konza functions as a site for student recreation as well as for research.

"The best time to visit Konza is around sunrise," Verheijen said. "Visit a high hill and enjoy the beautiful surroundings and the amazing skies. I hope that is not too early for most students."

Veach said that in addition to the tallgrass prairie's value as a site of research and conservation, it also deserves recognition for its aesthetic beauty.

"I'm not shocked that 177 was ranked as one of the top iconic drives," Veach said. "It's absolutely beautiful. When I moved here from Indiana, I had always thought of Kansas as barren and flat, but I was astounded at how beautiful this part of the country is, especially during spring."



File photo

Bison graze on the Konza Prairie, located south of Manhattan, just off of Route 177.

tion to Interstate 70.

"Dispel the myth that the plains are plain and boring along this stretch of road through what remains of the tallgrass prairie," Thompson writes in her entry about the drive. "By September, these knee-high grasses will tower above your chest, tall enough that only a buck's antlers move above them." She recommends that travelers learn more about the prairie by visiting the Tallgrass Prairie National Reserve and Manhattan's own Flint Hills Discovery Center.

Although Thompson does not specifically reference the Konza Prairie Research National Area, her endorsement of the tallgrass prairie brings attention to the ecological activities occurring at the prairie and within the Manhattan and K-State communities.

"It's one of the easy tourist spots within Kansas," said Jared Bixby, curator of education at the Flint Hills Discovery Center, about Route 177. "That stretch of 177 really being that iconic space really solidifies the efforts and what's been done to really put Kansas in the forefront of places to visit, especially within the

because it represents a rare ecosystem. In fact, tallgrass prairie is probably the continent's most diminished type of ecosystem," said Rob Manes, state director of the Nature Conservancy in Kansas, in an email interview. "North America has lost more than 95 percent of its tallgrass prairie, due to development and agriculture conversion."

The Flint Hills Discovery Center in downtown Manhattan seeks to educate the public about the prairie as an endangered ecosystem and to position the Konza Prairie as a tourist attraction in Kansas. As part of Manhattan's ongoing downtown redevelopment project, the year-old Flint Hills Discovery Center was selected to fulfill the state requirement that the redevelopment project contain a tourist attraction.

"Even the state is trying to promote the Flint Hills as a great tourism place," said Bixby, who oversees education programs ranging from preschool to an adult lecture series. "We try to reach just about every audience that we can."

The exhibits at the Discovery

Prairie Open House. Visitors to Konza see a beautiful example of a rare ecosystem."

Bixby said the Konza deserves recognition not only in Kansas as a tourist attraction, but also nationally as a conservation and research center.

"It has a huge role nationally because it brings awareness to Manhattan at a national level," Bixby said. "The research that Konza does is extremely profound and extremely important. It is very highly reviewed and respected within the national and international community."

That research largely occurs at the Konza Prairie Biological Station, an outdoor field laboratory run by K-State. The station was started in 1971 by Lloyd Hulbert, a former professor of biology. Today, it has become a highly respected outdoor research facility on both a national and international level.

"We are very fortunate, here at Kansas State, to have the Konza, and Lloyd has set up what I consider to be a world-class field station," said John Briggs, professor of biology and director of the Konza Prairie Biological Station.



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the collegian

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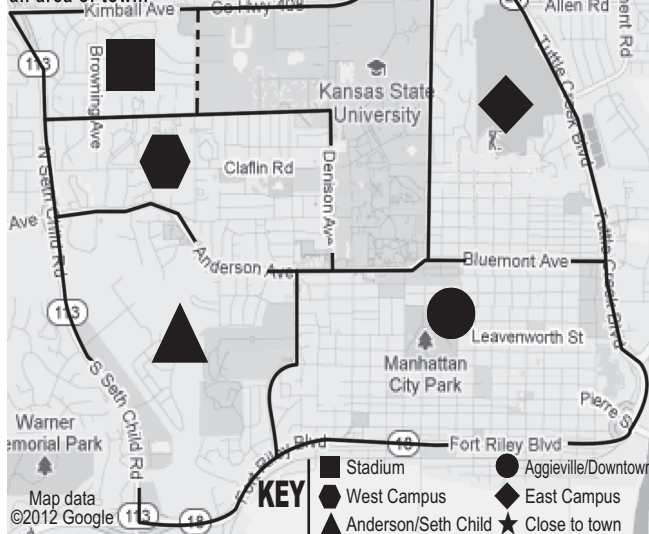
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By Dave Green

	5			7			6
1		2					
	3		6	8			
		4			3	7	
				2			
6	8				2		
			3	9		1	
					9		8
2		7				6	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/26

Answer to the last Sudoku.

5	4	3	7	2	1	9	6	8
6	2	8	3	4	9	1	5	7
1	9	7	6	5	8	4	3	2
8	3	2	9	1	5	6	7	4
7	1	5	2	6	4	3	8	9
4	6	9	8	3	7	2	1	5
3	8	1	5	9	2	7	4	6
9	5	4	1	7	6	8	2	3
2	7	6	4	8	3	5	9	1

Difficulty Level ★★★

8/25

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JOYLAND | Shows carny life

Continued from page 8

at least you're always guessing who the killer is and whether you actually get to meet them. Until those last 20 pages, this book probably could have gone down as a feel-good classic with some sort of life lesson to teach everyone.

Others seem to exalt this novel for its pulp-fiction overtones and study in carny culture. True, the carny talk and ways are charming at first, but it quickly gets old as the plot moves along slowly.

In his New York Times review,

Walter Kirn claims that the lack of plot actually has purpose. He likens the plot to cotton candy: good at first but once you actually bite in, there's nothing. However, the metaphor fits within the overall air of carnival and festivity. Despite all the overarching themes and motifs, it doesn't really do much for me. Maybe this book is better suited for devout King fans, but not for me. To be generous, I give this book 2.5 out of 5 stars.

Jeana Lawrence is a junior in mass communications. Please send comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.

N9NE | Artist's sound changes for the worse

Continued from page 8

This album is jam-packed full of songs featuring artists outside of Strange Music records.

Unfortunately, as an avid Tech N9ne fan, this album brings a lot of disappointment. As someone who has bought every album on its release date since the release of "Absolute Power" in 2002, I have been continually disappointed with the latest music releases from Tech N9ne.

Growing up listening to a particular artist, especially one you categorize as one of your favorites, it's normal

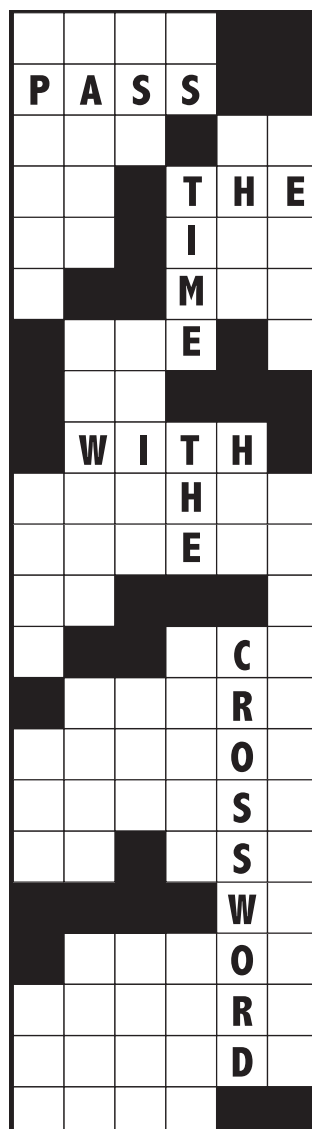
to hope for progression and growth. Maybe it's the fact that I love his older music, before he started getting radio-play with songs like "Caribou Lou" and "Like Yeah," but nothing about this album is distinct and really stands out. "Something Else" really is something else.

If you are looking for an album that has a natural flow, with songs that merge into one another yet don't sound exactly the same, this is not that album. Being used to albums with transitions that told a story throughout the entire album, I was highly disappointed with this. It seems like

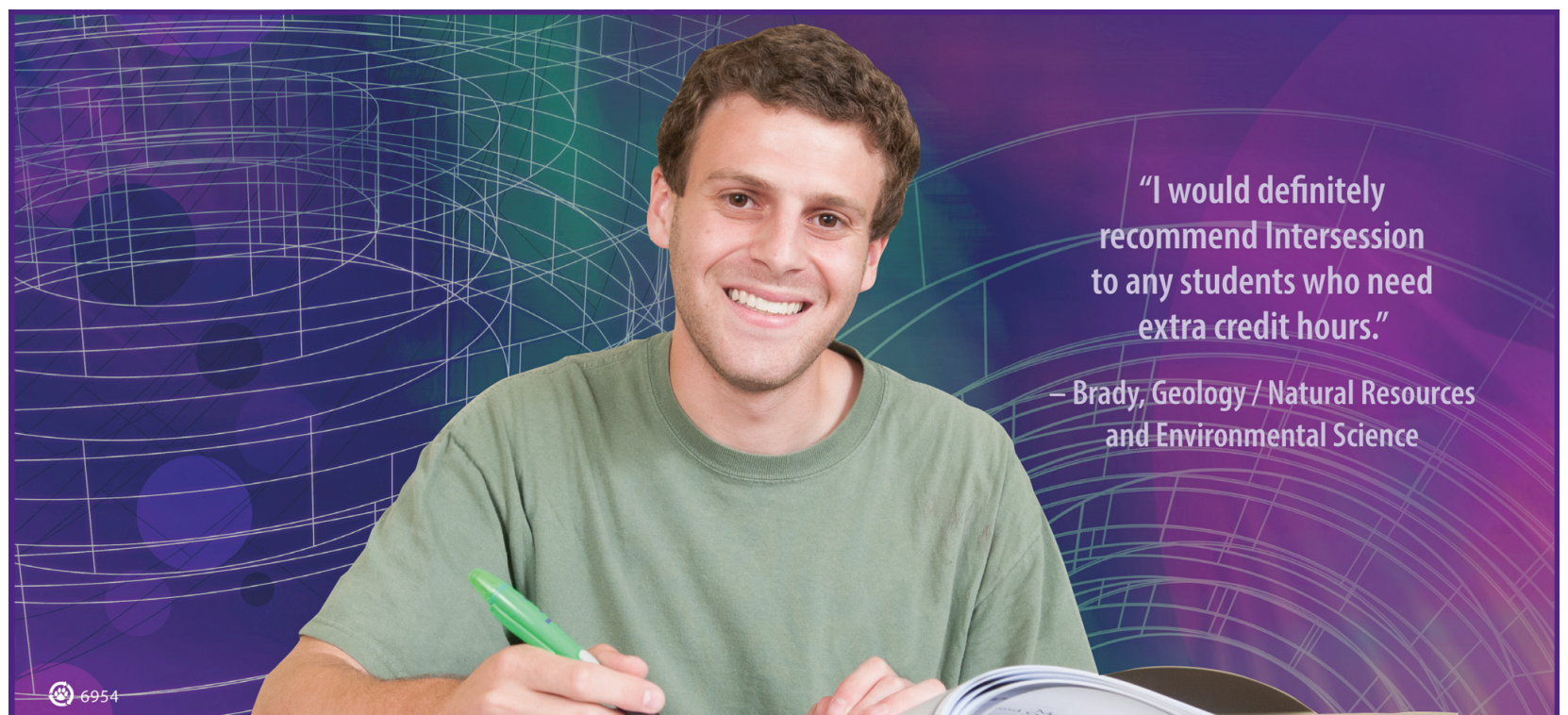
a compilation of singles he hadn't added to previous releases smashed together into one album.

If you have enjoyed his two most recent albums, you may enjoy "Something Else" more than I did. But as a longtime fan, especially of his older music, this is an unfortunate release. I give this album a very reluctant two out of five stars.

Jakki Thompson is a junior in journalism and mass communications and American ethnic studies. Please send comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.



every Wednesday
on page 2
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